Message for U.S. Citizens – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

Roads Closed this Weekend due to Religious Procession to El Quinche

November 18, 2011

The U.S. Embassy in Quito advises U.S. citizens living or traveling in Ecuador that an annual religious procession to El Quinche will close a major section of the Pan American Highway north of Quito starting Friday afternoon, November 18, and lasting through the weekend. El Quinche is located approximately 40km north of Quito.

Small cars will be allowed to transit from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Buses and heavy trucks will be allowed from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

In addition, the Quito-Cumbaya-Pifo road (including the Guayasamin tunnel), the Sangolqui-Pintag-Pifo road, and the road from Oton to Cusumbanba will also be closed during the same hours. All roads should reopen to vehicular traffic at 4:00 a.m. on Monday, November 21.

The U.S. Embassy recommends consulting Ecuadorian news outlets for updates on the religious procession and on travel restrictions.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to enroll with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in order to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the <u>Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u>.

U.S. citizens should consult the <u>Country Specific Information</u> for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the <u>Department's website</u>. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro.

- The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven
 digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls.
- Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- For after-hours emergencies, contact the Embassy at (011 593-2) 398-5200.
- Appointments for ACS are available through our <u>website</u>.

The <u>U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil</u> is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde).

• The telephone number for ACS inquiries is (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the Embassy website, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.